

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the present application. Claims 2 and 10 have been canceled. The remaining claims have been amended. Support for the amendments indicated herein may be found at least in lines 3-22 on page 10 of the present application. No new matter has been added.

In the Office Action, claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Nakatsugawa (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0144001) in view of Menzel (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0176187).

The undersigned and the Examiner held a telephone interview on January 6, 2009. The prior art of record and the claim amendments indicated herein were discussed. The undersigned at the Examiner agreed that the amendments indicated herein would overcome the current rejections. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the pending claims (as amended herein) are not obvious over Nakatsugawa in view of Menzel and request that the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

For the aforementioned reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (713) 934-4052 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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